

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed August 25, 2004, Applicants are amending independent claim 1. Therefore, only claim 1 currently is pending in the above-captioned patent application and is subject to examination. No new matter is added by the foregoing amendments, and these amendments are fully supported by the specification. See, e.g., Appl'n, Figure 2. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the above-captioned patent application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,097,457 to Kim, et al. ("Kim"). To the extent that this rejection remains applicable in view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, as follows.

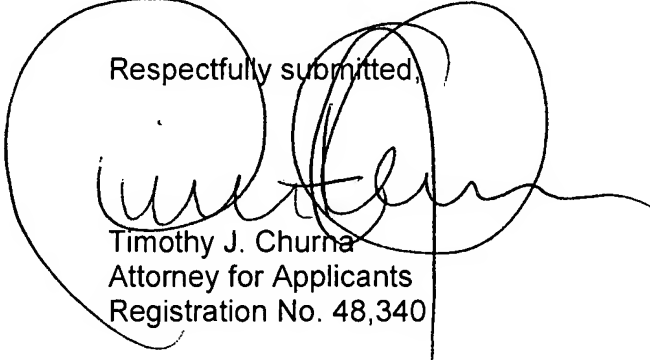
Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to describe a semiconductor integrated circuit, comprising "a shielded wire line; and a shielding wire line provided for the shielded wire line, wherein a width of the shielding wire line is greater than a width of the shielded wire line, and each of the shielding wire line and the shielded wire line are **positioned within a same layer of the semiconductor integrated circuit.**" Thus, the shielding wire line and the shielded wire line are positioned in the same layer of the semiconductor integrated circuit.

In contrast, Kim describes a liquid crystal display comprising a plurality of driver wires 31 and a plurality of light-shielding layers 43, which the Examiner asserts correspond to Applicants' claimed shielded wire and Applicants' claimed shielding wire, respectively. Nevertheless, as clearly shown in Figure 4 of Kim, a portion of each light-shielding layer 43 **overlaps** a portion of a corresponding pair of

driver wires 31. Because each light-shielding layer 43 overlaps two of the driver wires 31, light-shielding layer 43 clearly is not positioned within the same layer as driver wire 31, i.e., light-shielding layers 43 must be positioned above or below drive wires 31. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of independent claim 1 at least for this reason.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-captioned patent application is in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that an in-person or telephonic interview with Applicants' representatives would expedite the prosecution of the above-captioned patent application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney of records. Applicants are enclosing a Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time to Respond, and a check in the amount of \$120.00 covering the requisite large entity fee for such as extension, with this submission. Nevertheless, in the event of any variance between the fees determined by Applicants and those determined by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, please charge any such variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Churna
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 48,340

Customer No. 004372
ARENT FOX PLLC
1050 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Telephone No. (202) 857-6000
Facsimile No. (202) 638-4810

CMM/TJC:kif